

Application No. 10/800,602
Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement

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Remarks

Restriction Requirement

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. The Examiner has required a restriction of the application to claims in one of the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 1-5, drawn to a method for the production of recombinant proteins in *Pichia pastoris*, classified in class 435, subclass 195.
- Group II: Claims 6-11, drawn to a method for the production of recombinant glucocerebrosidase in *Pichia pastoris*, classified in class 435, subclass 200.
- Group III: Claims 12-17, drawn to a method for the production of recombinant Sphingomyelinase in *Pichia pastoris*, classified in class 435, subclass 197.

In order to be responsive to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, corresponding to claims 6-11. Applicants respectfully submit that the restriction requirement is improper and should be withdrawn because the claims of Groups I, II and III do not represent distinct inventions. The claimed invention is directed to a method that utilizes a *Pichea pastoris* expression system to produce recombinant proteins with high-mannose carbohydrate structures. The inventions are interrelated and a search of the claims of Group II would necessarily include a search of the claims of Group I and III. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Requirement for Restriction be withdrawn.

In the event the Examiner nevertheless disagrees, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, corresponding to claims 6-11. Applicants reserve the right to file related applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.


Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirements for restriction and election in view of the foregoing remarks. If the Examiner believes that a conversation with the Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required and credit any overpayment of same to Deposit Account No. 07-1074. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 29, 2006


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